

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the paragraph at page 37 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- ~~The present invention provides antibacterial~~Antibacterial pectocellulosic fibers or antibacterial pectocellulosic fiber fabrics obtained by treating ~~pectocellulose~~pectocellulosic fibers or pectocellulosic fabrics with at least one chemical substance selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, salts thereof, chelating agents, and a pectin-degrading enzyme to lower the pectin content in pectocellulosic fibers to 1 to 80% by mass with respect to the pectin content before the treatment and then supporting antibacterial agents comprising ionic inorganic compounds or antibacterial agents comprising ionic organic compounds on the treated pectocellulosic fibers or pectocellulosic fiber fabrics.--